

# CREATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

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GIVING is the most fun you can have with money! Gifts given with joy transform both the giver and the recipient. While cash gifts remain the most popular way to give, there are a number of methods that are just as easy and may offer greater tax advantages. The team at FM Financial would love to have a giving conversation with you. We offer customized illustrations that can help you decide what to give ... and how to give it. We are able to facilitate all of the giving methods listed below and distribute your gift to the Free Methodist ministry(ies) of your choice. It is one of the ways we serve as the financial services ministry of FMCUSA.



## APPRECIATED SECURITIES AND REAL ESTATE

Giving appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or real estate creates a two-fold tax benefit. First, you receive a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the gift; second, you avoid the capital gains you would have incurred upon the sale of the asset.



## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are at least age 70 ½, you are eligible to make qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from your individual retirement account (IRA). While these gifts are not tax-deductible, they count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) and can lower your taxable income.



## DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donor advised funds are increasingly becoming a popular way to give. You can give a gift of cash or appreciated assets to your donor advised fund and immediately receive the appropriate tax benefit(s). The funds are then invested until you are ready to distribute them to a qualified charity. Donor advised funds are also a great way to involve family members in your giving!

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*“The people were filled with joy because they had been so willing to give. They gave their gift to the Lord with a whole heart.”*

*1 Chronicles 29:9 (NLV)*

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## ENDOWMENTS

Endowed gifts keep working year after year to provide ministry funds until Jesus returns. In short, an endowed gift is invested to keep the principal intact while paying out a designated portion of the income to ministry each year. Endowments can be funded with cash or appreciated assets (minimum \$50,000).



## BEQUESTS

Leaving a gift to ministry in your will or trust is very simple. With the help of a professional, language can be included to designate a specific amount, or a percentage of your estate, to the ministry(ies) of your choice. It is a wonderful way to benefit ministry and leave a legacy of giving for your children!



## RETIREMENT ASSETS

Ministries can easily be named as a beneficiary on your retirement account. Using retirement funds for charitable contributions and leaving other assets to family members can reduce taxes.



## LIFE INSURANCE

If you no longer need an insurance policy, instead of cancelling it, consider gifting it to ministry and receiving a charitable deduction during your lifetime. You may also name a ministry as the beneficiary of the policy. In this case, your estate would receive the charitable deduction.



## LIFE INCOME AGREEMENTS

Life income agreements allow you to give a significant irrevocable gift in support of ministry, while also providing an income for yourself or a loved one. Charitable remainder unitrusts, charitable remainder annuity trusts, and charitable gift annuities are included in this category. While each is unique, they all provide a calculated charitable deduction; if appreciated assets are gifted, the initial capital gains are also avoided.

FM Financial is the financial services ministry of FMCUSA. We offer professional planning, investing, and giving services for individuals and organizations from a biblical perspective.